

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

IDS

An IDS was filed on January 6, 2006, after the mailing date of the October 19, 2005 Office Action. The IDS discloses five references that were cited on November 7, 2006 in a counterpart foreign application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to return an initialed copy of the related SB-08 with the next communication.

Objection to the Disclosure

Applicants have amended the abstract to overcome the objection.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC 103

For the following reasons, applicants believe that the present invention is not obvious. As noted in sections 0021 to 0026 of the specification, in order to send materials into space to fabricate a structure, the volume of each material must be kept as small as possible for transportation. For example, a large apparatus such as a panel for a solar cell to be installed on a satellite or space structure is required to be reduced in size when transporting from the Earth. An apparatus folded when transporting is expanded into a predetermined shape suitable for use in space such as on a satellite orbit. The property of a material which permits shrinking for transport and expansion or deployment into a predetermined shape upon practical use is called “inflatability.”

The present invention provides a carbon fiber reinforced plastic prepreg compatible for use as an inflatable material for such space structure. Applicants urge that one of ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to apply the resins in US 6706844 B2 to US 5545697. There is no disclosure in either of these references for the need in developing a suitable material for applications to a space structure. In the absence of such a demand for inflatability, no one would have been motivated to achieve the present invention.

Conclusion

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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By 

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